

SOME STARS IN "THE MIKADO"



MISS EMILY WADE.

PETER D. MILLER.

AMUSEMENTS.

(Continued From Sixth Page)

three performances given every day, there being a matinee regularly at 3 o'clock and night performances that start at 7:15 and 9 o'clock. To-morrow, Easter Monday, the night prices will be in force at the matinee.

Empire Offers "The Seminary Girl."

There is much in the title of the newest tabloid offering which will provide the Easter week entertainment at the Empire to assure devotees of the "billed down" musical comedy style of entertainment at least the usual satisfactory results and really more than is natural to expect when it is considered that the star of the newest offering is Knute Erickson, one of the best musical comedy entertainers, and the man who really appeared in the original offering of this kind before its present-day popularity had scarcely been thought of. Erickson will appear in the character of Daffy Dan, an escaped inmate of a lunatic asylum, who makes his stop at a hotel close by a seminary for girls. News of the escape of the mentally deranged patient spreads quickly, and excitement ensues that involves the girls and a host of other people, characters in the play, suspicion being directed against many of them, who are made to undergo any but pleasant experiences before the identity of the real cause of all the trouble is revealed.

There is a large and specially selected company engaged in the offering, among the players being Jeanette Bergere, Jack Lewis, Percy Chapman, Lois Meredith, Neil Moore, Elwood Benton, Louise Clark, Lee Farrell and Anna Light. Naturally there is a beauty chorus; such an offering would be incomplete without the presence of a bevy of pretty girls in their roles of seminary girls.

An excellent scenic investiture accompanies the offering, and the costumes are said to be the prettiest yet to have been seen in any of the tabloids that have provided such general amusement. In the staging of the piece much stress has been laid on the effects to be gained from the many stage pictures that will include the girls in their singing and dancing effects, along which lines they are reputed to be of unusual value.

Knute Erickson is known to the music-lovers of many cities because of his vocal gifts, as well as his comedy attainments. Two specialties in which he stars, entitled "Crazyisms" and "Daffyisms," promise to be responsible for great enjoyment. Other song hits are "Back to Carolina," "Is There Anything Else I Can Do for You?" "Sit Right on the Moon," "Good-By, Boys," "Everybody Sings of Roses" and "Wait Through Life."

Three performances are given each day, a matinee at 3 o'clock and two night performances at 7:30 and 9 o'clock, respectively. Four performances on Saturday, inclusive of two matinees at 2 o'clock and 3:30, with the night performances at the regular scheduled hours. Night prices will



RALPH LUDWIG.

MRS. NORMAN CALL.
(Photos by Foster.)

be the rule at the matinee to be given to-morrow, Easter Monday.

Mrs. Fiske.

In these days when precariousness so marks the entire field of theatrical production, it is the height of managerial gratification to find a play which is certain of at least two seasons of life. Thus have Mr. and Mrs. Fiske reason to congratulate themselves upon their production of "The High Roads," Edward Sheldon's play, the success of which has insured no change in Mrs. Fiske's play material either this season or next. The theme of the play is one which is not confined to any single season or locality, and the principal character, Mary Page, calls for Mrs. Fiske's best efforts as well as for shades of both her personality and her art that have not been to the fore in a number of her recent characters. Mrs. Fiske will be seen at the Academy here in the near future.

Philharmonic Concert.

A concert by the Richmond Philharmonic Orchestra, W. Henry Baker, conductor, will be given at the City Auditorium on Thursday night. There will be a number of features out of the ordinary.

The vocal soloist of the evening will be Miss Monell, who will appear with two numbers. Miss Doris Baker will

play the "Romance" from Wienlawski's Second Concerto for the violin. Miss Baker is one of the younger members of the Philharmonic Orchestra, and her playing is characterized by excellent tone-quality and expression.

Carrying out the policy of playing the works of local composers, the orchestra will give for the first time, a "Valse Caprice" by Mr. Baker, the conductor.

The program is as follows:

1. Overture, "Light Cavalry".....Suppe Orchestra.
2. "Symphony in D Minor".....First Movement.....Schubert Orchestra.
3. Soprano solo, "More Regal in His Low Estate," from "Queen of Sheba".....Mrs. W. F. Monell.
4. (a) "Last Dream of the Virgin," Massenet (b) "Ronde d'Amour".....Westerhout (c) "The Mice and the Trap" (by request).....Kohler Orchestra.
5. Violin solo, "Romance," from Second Concerto.....Wienlawski.
6. Soprano solo.....Selected Mrs. Monell.
7. "Valse Caprice".....Baker Orchestra.
8. Selections from "The Spring Maid," Reinhardt Orchestra.

Janet Spencer to Sing Here.

At the last rehearsal of the Wednesday Club it was announced that the board of governors had secured Miss Janet Spencer to complete the list of soloists for the coming May Festival. She stands pre-eminent among present-day contraltos, though until 1909 her career had been confined to this country, where for several years she heaped success upon success, appearing in song recital, concert and oratorio, in the last instance with the foremost societies known.

So exceptional was Miss Spencer's artistic growth that when European managers besieged her with offers to visit England she was compelled to acquiesce, and there the corps of music critics and the public hailed her as an artist qualified to rank with the contraltos that had visited them during the past decade. So competent an authority as the London Standard declared the singer an admirably rounded artist, with a tone of unusual purity, that was well produced, and interpretative abilities of exceptional order.

At the Little Theatre.

"The Wives of Jamestown," a Kalem two-reel special release, will be shown at the Little Theatre to-morrow. It tells of the love of an humble Irishman for a titled woman.

At the regular Tuesday recital, Harry Glass, a pupil of Professor Moses Stein, will play violin solos, and Master Forest Cubben, the talented boy soprano, will sing several popular songs.

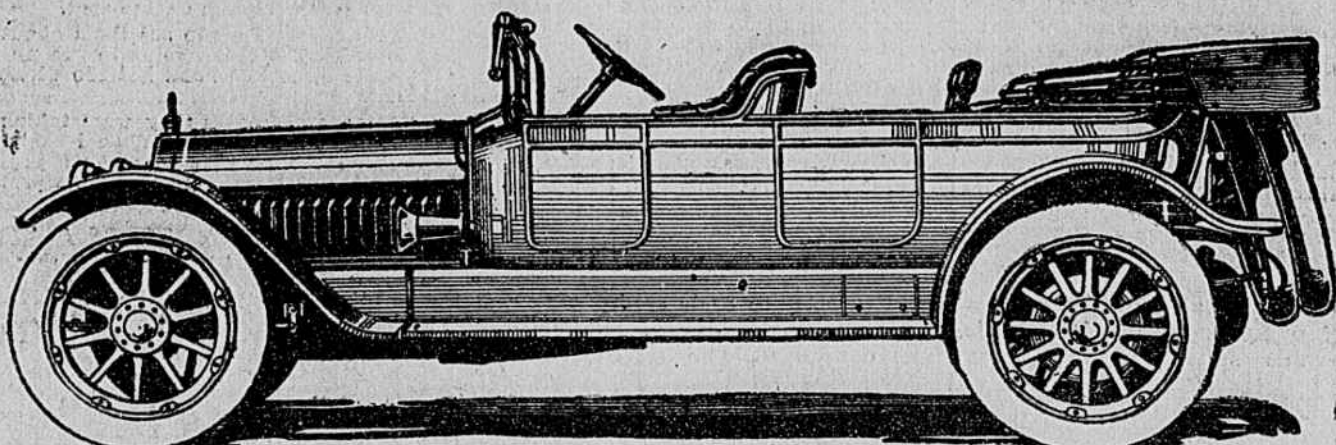
The New Orpheum.

The Lubin, to be known hereafter as the Orpheum, will reopen on March 31 as an exclusive photo-play and moving picture theatre. It will be one of the largest exclusive picture houses in the South. Just now it is being remodeled, renovated and handsomely decorated.

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WONDERFUL CAST TO SING 'MIKADO'

Amateur Entertainment Will Be Much Like Professional Display of Talent.

Theatrical performances by Richmond amateurs have long ago passed the stage where they must be viewed and discussed in the tolerant spirit with which the public is accustomed to greet the efforts of well-meaning but incompetent volunteers. The brilliant success achieved by the young men and women who within the last two or three years have presented "Pinafore," "The Little Tycoon," "The Society Vaudeville" and the "Kirmess" has established the fact that in offering one of their performances to the public at the regular scale of prices they need make no apology, ask no indulgence, because of the fact that it is given for charity.

In "The Mikado," which will be presented at the Academy of Music April 1, 2 and 3, for the benefit of the Belle Bryan Day Nursery, the public will have an opportunity of hearing one of the most talented and talented choruses selected from the most talented and attractive members of the younger set of Richmond. Rehearsals, under the direction of Alvin M. Smith and Professor Moses Stein, have already progressed so far that the frequent rehearsal calls are now made only for the purpose of polishing and rendering smooth the almost perfected work of the cast and chorus, so that when the first performance is given it will not be a mere dress rehearsal, as is so often the case with amateur offerings, but a complete, well-rounded performance of a brilliant comic opera by a talented and "easy" company.

Cast Carefully Selected.

In selecting the cast of principals

the utmost care was taken in order to secure not only competent singers, but good actors and genuine comedians, and the list of principals shows how successful was the effort.

For Fish-Tush, the principal baritone role, the management was able to secure the most thoroughly competent man in Richmond for the part, Norman Call, whose beautiful, big voice has been heard with delight in many churches, as well as in numerous recitals and concerts. Mr. Call's singing of the prologue to "I Pagliacci" last year with the Richmond Philharmonic

Orchestra was one of the events of the musical season and forms an added proof of the good fortune of the management in enlisting his services for such a splendid singing role as that of Fish-Tush.

The prima donna role, that of Yum-Yum, will be sung by Mrs. Norman Call. Mrs. Call has not sung a great deal in public for several years, but all musical Richmond remembers when she was Miss Eileen Herron and sang so exquisitely as the soprano of St. Paul's Church. Those who have heard her singing at rehearsals declare that the beauty and freshness of her voice have increased and brightened with her comparative rest, and that she will prove a sensation in one of the dearest parts ever written for a soprano.

C. Ralph Ludwig, who is to sing Nanki-Poo, is the young tenor who took the town by storm two years ago when he appeared in the leading tenor role in "The Little Tycoon." Since that time Mr. Ludwig has devoted much time and study to the improvement of his already extraordinary voice, and he will literally create another sensation as the son of the Mikado.

Many Other Fine Singers.

Herbert E. Featherstone, the Pook, Bah of the cast, is another singer with a fresh, ringing voice, vibrant with the vitality of youth and energy. Mr. Featherstone is best known to the followers of things theatrical as the Captain Corcoran of the "Pinafore" company, in which opera he divided honors with Mrs. Elmore D. Hotchkiss, Jr. Charles G. Harris, who will play the title role of the Mikado, has heretofore modestly confined his voice and talents to the ranks of the chorus, with an occasional incursion among the smaller bits. With the experience gained from a long and intelligent apprenticeship, Mr. Harris will emerge into the glare of the footlights with his first big part, and the prediction is confidently made that he will astound those who have not seen his work at rehearsals.

H. Godwin Boykin and Otis M. Alfriend, who will not only essay and achieve, but also eat, the respective roles of Katsura and Ko-Ko, have attained such a height in their profession that it is best either only to mention them without comment or to de-

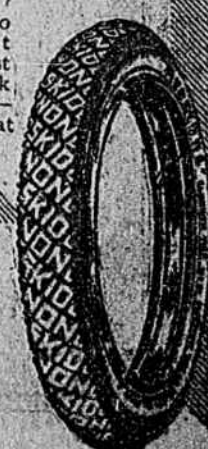
vote a column or two to their praise. At this time only brief mention is made of these artists, with the promise that from time to time fitting encomiums will be printed, in which the effort will be made to convey some idea of what may be expected of them.

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EDITH HELENA.

as Lucia, in "Lucia di Lammermoor," Aborn English Grand Opera Company.